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Application S/N: 10/099,623 Atty Docket No. 1014-15 Date of Response: June 17, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application: Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-53 (withdrawn)

Claim 54. (currently amended)

A: method for fabricating a fiber grating structure from an optical fiber having a central longitudinal axis, comprising the step of:

(a) imposing a chiral refractive index modulation along the central longitudinal axis of said optical fiber in one of a first and second configuration, wherein in said first configuration said optical fiber is formed into a chiral structure having a first pitch and a period, wherein said first pitch is twice said period, and wherein in said second configuration said optical fiber is formed into a chiral structure having a second pitch and a period, wherein said second pitch is substantially equal to said period.

Claim 55. (currently amended)

The fabrication method of claim 54, wherein the optical fiber comprises a first end and a second end, and wherein said step (a) comprises the steps of:

- (b) retaining said first end of said optical fiber;
- (c) retaining said second end of said optical fiber;
- (d) imposing said <u>chiral</u> refractive index modulation in one of said first and second configurations on said optical fiber, between said first end and said second end, to form said optical fiber into a chiral fiber grating.